iv) Minimising the use of open wagons;

(v) Administrative measures such as tightening of security at depots, intensifying surprise checks, ensuring regular stock verifications *etc.*;

(vi) Augmentation of covered storage capacity;

(vii) Introduction of machine stitching of bags.

Wrought relief work in Rajasthan

1090. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state-.

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute drought situation in Raja, sthan;

(b) the districts declared drought affected in Rajasthan; an^

(c) the details of the drought relief work taken up in the State and tbe number of people employed in each district as a result thereof this year in comparison to the earlier five year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) According to the India Meteorological Department report for the period 1st June to 8th August, 1990, West Rajasthan and East Rajasthan meteorological subdivisions have experienced excess/ normal rainfall, tbe percentage departure from the normal being + 129% and + 10 per cent respectively. There is thu_s no acute drought situation in Rajasthan now.

(b) o district has been declared drought affected by the State Govern ment during the current monsoon period.

(c) Does not arise.

Production and consumption of *Vanaspati*

1091. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total consumption of Vanaspati in the country; Statewise;

(b) what is the production of Vanaspati in the country; State-wise; and

(c) in what manner Government propose to reduce the shortage if any, of Vanaspati?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) and (b) A statement is annexed. (See below)

(c) Some of the measures taken by the Government with a view to reducing the shortage of vanaspati are: —

(i) Stock limits of edible oil seeds restored to lower levels.

(ii) Increase in minimum margin for bank advances ordered by RBI; and

(iii) Central Government is in constant touch with the State Governments *to* take up dehoarding operations.